STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

As a graduate of History and Strategic Studies from the University of Lagos, Nigeria, I am excited to continue my studies in the field of African History at Purdue University. I have always been fascinated by the way that History helps us understand the events and people that have shaped our continent and its future, and I believe that by studying African History, we can learn from our past mistakes and successes and use that knowledge to build a better future for ourselves and our communities.

My particular interest is in understanding the complex interactions between gender and other unique identifying features such as race, ethnicity, sexuality, nation, and religion. Examining the history of gender norms over time has helped me to understand how they contribute to the continued oppression of women in modern society, and how such a basic form of social organization often passes unnoticed. This has fueled my passion for studying African History, as I believe it is crucial for us to understand the past in order to create a more equal and just future.

I am confident that the Masters program in African History at Purdue University will provide me with the knowledge and skills I need to make a meaningful contribution to the field. The program's focus on in-depth research and analysis, as well as its commitment to providing students with the opportunity to work closely with professors and experts in the field, are particularly appealing to me. I am excited to take advantage of the resources and opportunities available at Purdue to continue exploring the rich and diverse histories of our continent and to use that knowledge to build a brighter future for Africa.

In my studies so far, I have had the opportunity to explore a wide range of African History topics, including the decolonization process, the emergence of post-colonial African states, and the histories of individual African countries and cultures. I have also taken it upon myself to learn more about influential figures like Nnamdi Azikiwe and Kwame Nkrumah, whose legacies continue to shape Africa's present and future. Through my coursework in related subjects like Sociology and English Literature, I have developed strong research and writing skills that will be valuable assets as I pursue my Masters degree in African History at Purdue University.

In my free time, I enjoy visiting museums and historical sites to learn more about African culture and heritage. I have also been actively involved in various extracurricular activities in my school and community, including volunteering with local charities and participating in cultural events and sports teams. These experiences have allowed me to engage with my

community and have given me valuable leadership and teamwork skills that I believe will serve me well in my future studies and career.

I am eager to begin the next chapter of my education at Purdue University, and I am confident that the Masters program in African History will provide me with the knowledge and skills I need to achieve my goals and make a meaningful contribution to the field. I am excited to continue exploring the rich and diverse histories of our continent, and to use that knowledge to build a brighter future for Africa.

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